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History

# Fraternity Lodge
# No. 262
# F. & A. M.

Ann Arbor.
Fraternity Lodge no. 2

# By-Laws and History

*of*

# Fraternity Lodge, No. 262

## F. & A. M.

ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN
1907

ABRAHAM T. METCALF, GRAND MASTER IN 1869 AND 1870, WHO GRANTED DISPENSATION FOR FRATERNITY LODGE, SIGNED THE CHARTER AND CONSTITUTED THE LODGE.

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1907

# BY-LAWS
*of*
# Fraternity Lodge, No. 262, Free and Accepted Masons.

## Article I.

*Style, Title and Authority.*

Section 1. This Lodge, located in the city of Ann Arbor, County of Washtenaw and State of Michigan, shall be known and hailed as Fraternity Lodge, No. 262, Free and Accepted Masons, and is held under and by authority of a charter granted by the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of the State Michigan, under date of January 13, 1870.

## Article II.

*Communications.*

Section 1. The stated Communications of this Lodge shall be held on the first Friday in each month at 7:30 o'clock, p. m. Special communications shall be held when called by the Master, as provided in Section 2 of Article IV of the Grand Lodge Regulations.

Section 2. The annual communication shall be held on the first Friday in December of each year.

## ARTICLE III.

### *Officers and Committees.*

Section 1. The elective officers of this Lodge shall be the Worshipful Master, Senior Warden, Junior Warden, Treasurer, Secretary, Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, and Tyler, elected by ballot and majority of votes in accordance with the provisions of Section 1 of Article V of the Grand Lodge Regulations.

Section 2. The appointive officers shall be two Stewards, a Chaplain, Marshal, Organist, Historian and such other officers as the Master may deem necessary.

Section 3. The Master shall appoint a Finance Committee consisting of three members. The presiding officer of the Lodge shall constitute a house committee, acting in conjunction with a like committee from each of the other bodies occupying the same rooms. The Master and Wardens shall constitute a committee on charity and relief.

## ARTICLE IV.

### *Duties of Officers.*

Section 1. The Master, Wardens, Treasurer and Secretary shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the Regulations of the Grand Lodge.

Section 2. The Treasurer shall also present to the Lodge at the stated communication in January of each year a report of the

receipts, disbursements and financial condition of the Lodge.

Section 3. The Secretary shall also present to the Lodge at the stated communication in January of each year a report of its work, of the condition of its accounts with its officers and members, and of all other matters relating to its finances or business which may be under his charge.

Section 4. The Deacons, Tyler, Stewards, Chaplain and Marshal shall perform such duties consonant with the usages of the Craft and appertaining to their respective offices as may be required by ancient custom, or as the Master may order.

Section 5. The Historian shall procure photographs of the members of the Lodge and preserve their Masonic history. He shall compile the history of the Lodge and present in writing at each stated communication in January of each year an historical account of the Lodge during the preceding twelve months.

Section 6. The Secretary shall receive such compensation for performing the duties of his office as may be voted by the Lodge at its annual communication.

## Article V.

### *Duties of Committees.*

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Finance Committee to examine and approve all bills, audit all accounts, inspect the

books of the Treasurer and Secretary, and present a written report to the Lodge at the stated communication in February of each year.

Section 2. It shall be the duty of the House Committee to see that proper care is taken of the rooms, furniture and paraphernalia of the Lodge.

Section 3. In the interim between stated communications of the Lodge, all applications for relief shall be referred to the Committee on Relief, who shall visit the sick and minister to their wants and shall have power to expend any sum not exceeding $10 in any one case during one month, which action shall be reported at the next stated communication of the Lodge.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *Fees and Dues.*

Section 1. The fees for conferring the degrees in this Lodge shall be fifty dollars: For the Entered Apprentice degree, fifteen dollars, said fee to accompany the petition; for the Fellowcraft degree, fifteen dollars, to be paid at time of initiation; for the Master Mason degree twenty dollars, to be paid at time of passing.

Section 2. The annual dues of each member of the Lodge, except honorary members; shall be two dollars, to be paid on or before the annual communication in each year. The Secretary, by virtue of his office,

shall be exempt from dues, and the Lodge may by majority vote remit the dues of any brother when deemed proper.

## ARTICLE VII.

### *Honorary Members.*

Section 1. For eminent service to the Craft or to Fraternity Lodge in particular, any brother in good standing may be elected to honorary membership in this Lodge, after the manner prescribed in Article XVI, Section 7, of the Grand Lodge Regulations.

## ARTICLE VIII.

### *Order of Business.*

Section 1. The order of business at a stated communication of the Lodge shall be as follows:

1. Reading and approving minutes of last stated and intervening special communications.

2. Reports of committees on petitions.

3. Balloting on petitions for initiation and membership.

4. Reading, receiving and referring petitions.

5. Receiving and allowing bills.

6. Reports of standing and special committees.

7. Communications.
8. Unfinished business.
9. New business.
10. Conferring degrees.
11. Reports of sickness and distress.

Section 2. The order of business at a special communication shall be such as the Master may direct.

## ARTICLE IX.

### *Amending and Suspending By-Laws.*

Section 1. These By-Laws shall be amended only in the manner following: The proposed amendment shall be presented in writing at a stated communication, and shall lie over until the next or some succeeding stated communication, when if it be approved by a two-thirds vote of the members present, it shall be declared adopted.

Section 2. No By-Law of this Lodge, except that relating to the order of business at stated communications, shall be suspended on any pretext whatever.

Section 3. These By-Laws shall be spread upon the records of the Lodge, and every amendment thereof shall be recorded by the Secretary in the minutes of the communication at which it may be adopted and in an appropriate place in connection with the By-Laws themselves.

Section 4. All former By-Laws of this

Lodge are by the adoption of these By-Laws hereby repealed.

Proposed August 3, 1906.

ARTHUR M. SMITH,
JOHN LINDENSCHMITT,
CLAUDE J. PRICE,
*Committee.*

ADOPTED BY FRATERNITY LODGE, Oct. 5, 1906.

## Sections of the Grand Lodge Regulations to which Reference is made in the By-Laws of Fraternity Lodge.

### ARTICLE IV.

*Meetings—Regular and Special.*

Section 2. The By-Laws of each Lodge shall provide on what evening of the week its meetings shall be held, and which shall be regular; but the Master, by giving due and timely notice, may call a special meeting at any other time; Provided, that no business shall be transacted at such meeting but that for which it shall have been called; and, Provided further, that no meeting shall be called or held on the first day of the week (or Sunday) except for funerals or charitable purposes.

### ARTICLE V.

*Election and Installation of Officers.*

Section 1. Each Lodge at its regular communication next preceding the festival of St. John the Evangelist in each year, shall elect, by ballot and by a majority of votes, a Master, a Senior Warden, a Junior Warden, a Treasurer, and a Secretary, and at the same time all others required or permitted by Art. 1 of these regulations shall

be elected by ballot or appointed by its Master elect, as the By-Laws of each Lodge may direct; Provided, that no brother shall hold more than one office in the Lodge, and that no brother, except a Tyler, shall hold office in more than one Lodge. All officers shall be duly installed by a Present or Past Master, or by the Grand Master or his Deputy on or before St. John's Day, and no officer shall perform any duty of the office to which he may be elected or appointed until he has been so installed; and they shall hold their respective offices until their successors shall have been duly elected, or appointed and installed; Provided, that no elective officer shall be installed by proxy.

## ARTICLE VI.

### *The Master—His Powers and Duties.*

Section 1. The Master shall have power—

To congregate his Lodge whenever he shall deem it proper;

To issue or cause to be issued, all notices and summonses which may be required;

To discharge all the executive functions of his Lodge; and,

To perform all such other acts, by ancient usage proper to his office, as shall not be in contravention of any provisions of the Constitution or Regulations of this Grand Lodge.

Section 2. It shall be his duty—

To preside at all meetings of his Lodge;

To confer all degrees in strict accordance with the Ritual ordained by this Grand Lodge;

To give, in full, the lectures appertaining to each degree, at the time it is conferred; in accordance with such Ritual.

To superintend the official acts of all the officers of his Lodge, and see that their respective duties are properly performed;

To carefully guard against any infraction, by the members of his Lodge, of its own By-Laws, of the Constitution and Regulations of this Grand Lodge; or of the general regulations of Masonry, and,

To cause the Constitution and Regulations of this Grand Lodge to be read in his Lodge at least once in three months.

Section 3. From the decisions of the Master there shall be no appeal to the Lodge; but appeals from his decisions and complaints of his acts and conduct may be made to the Grand Master or to this Grand Lodge.

Section 4. In all cases of a tie vote, except votes by ballot, the Master, in addition to his proper vote, may have the casting vote.

Section 5. For any unmasonic conduct, or for the neglect or violation of any duty imposed by the Constitution or Regulations

of Grand Lodge, upon the Master of a Lodge, he shall be subject to removal from office, suspension or expulsion.

## ARTICLE VII.

### *Wardens—Their Powers and Duties.*

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Wardens to assist the Master in the performance of his duties, and to discharge all others which ancient usage has assigned to their respective stations.

Section 2. In the absence of the Master, his duties devolve on the Senior Warden, and if the Master and Senior Warden both be absent, the Junior Warden succeeds to the duties of the Master.

## ARTICLE IX.

### *The Treasurer and His Duties.*

It shall be the duty of the Treasurer—

To receive and safely keep all money or property of every kind which shall be placed in his hands by the Secretary, or by order of the Lodge, and to give proper receipts therefor;

To disburse or transfer the same, or any part thereof, upon the order of the Master, duly attested by the Secretary;

To keep a book or books which shall contain a correct statement of his receipts and disbursements on account of the Lodge;

To make to the Lodge, as its By-Laws

may require, annual or quarterly reports, of its receipts, disbursements and financial condition; and

To perform such other duties, appertaining to his office, as the By-Laws may require or the Lodge, at any time, may direct.

## Article X

### *The Secretary and His Duties.*

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Secretary, under the direction of the Master—

To record all the proceedings of the Lodge proper to be written, including its current receipts and disbursements, and all financial reports; and to submit such record to the Lodge at its next regular meeting for approval or correction, and to the Master for his signature;

To prepare and to transmit a copy of such record, or any part thereof, to the Grand Lodge, when required;

To collect and receive all moneys due the Lodge, giving his receipt therefor, and to pay the same promptly to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same.

To make to the Lodge annually or otherwise, as its By-Laws may direct, a report of its work, of the condition of its accounts with its officers and members, and of all other matters relating to its finances or business which may be under his charge;

To keep the seal of the Lodge and to affix the same, with his attestation, to all papers

issued under its authority or in obedience to the requirements of the Constitution and Regulations of this Grand Lodge;

To transmit to the Grand Secretary immediately after each election in the Lodge, a certificate thereof, in the manner and form prescribed by the Grand Lodge.

To transmit to the Grand Secretary the annual return of the work and condition of the Lodge, required in Section 40 of Grand Lodge By-Laws;

To report promptly to all contiguous Lodges the name of each person rejected, expelled, suspended, or restored by his Lodge in the manner and form prescribed by this Grand Lodge.

Section 2. He shall keep the following books of the Lodge, in such forms as may be provided;

A Roll of Membership for the signature of its members in the order of their admission;

A Ledger, in which he shall record, on pages alphabetically indexed, the names of all belonging to the Lodge; the dates of their initiation, passing, raising, or affiliation; the name, number and location of the Lodges of which those affiliated were last members; the age and occupation of each when received; the dates of their withdrawal, expulsion, suspension, restoration, or death, and their individual accounts with the Lodge;

A black book, in which he shall record,

upon pages alphabetically arranged, the names of all candidates rejected by his own Lodge, and in like manner the names of those rejected, expelled or suspended by other Lodges, so far as he shall receive the proper notice thereof; and,

A register, to be kept on the Secretary's desk, in which each visitor shall record his name, and the name, number and location of his Lodge.

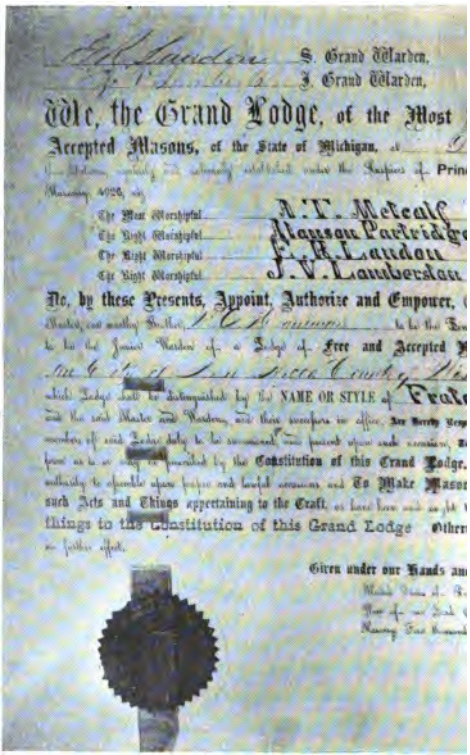
A properly indexed record book in which shall be preserved all memorials of deceased Grand Officers and Past Grand Officers as well as of those members of their own Lodges to whose memory memorials may be adopted by their Lodges.

Section 3. He shall preserve the By-Laws of the Lodge, and the Books of Constitution and Regulations of the Grand Lodge, which may, from time to time, be published, together with all the printed proceedings thereof, as promulgated by its order.

## Article XVI.

### *Membership in a Lodge.*

Section 7. No Lodge shall admit to full membership a brother who is a member of another Lodge; Provided, That an affiliated Master Mason in good standing, may be elected to honorary membership in a Lodge other than his own, but in each case, his name shall be proposed at a regular com-



S. Grand Warden,
J. Grand Warden,

Tile, the Grand Lodge, of the Most
Accepted Masons, of the State of Michigan, at
Prin
Masonry, 4926, viz.

The Most Worshipful A. T. Metcalf
The Right Worshipful Alanson Partridge
The Right Worshipful F. H. Landon
The Right Worshipful J. V. Lamberdon

Do, by these Presents, Appoint, Authorize and Empower,
Master, our worthy Brother, [illegible] to be the Ben
to be the Junior Warden of a Lodge of Free and Accepted M
[illegible]
which Lodge shall be distinguished by the NAME OR STYLE of Frate
and the said Master and Warden, and their successors in office, Are Hereby Resp
members of said Lodge duly to be summoned, and present upon such occasion, T
from us to or may be prescribed by the Constitution of this Grand Lodge,
authority to assemble upon proper and lawful occasions and To Make Mason
such Acts and Things appertaining to the Craft, as have been and ought
things to the Constitution of this Grand Lodge Other
in further effect.

Given under our Hands an

THE CHARTER OF

Grand Master,

D. Grand Master.

ncient and Honorable Fraternity of Free and

Ample Form

Edwin,

Grand Master

Deputy Grand Master

Senior Grand Master

Junior Grand Master

Lodge

And Further,

to Admit Members; as also to Do and Perform all and Every

Conforming in all

Warrant,

the Seal of our Grand Lodge,

Grand Secretary

RATERNITY LODGE.

munication, lie over for one month and then be voted on by ball ballot in the regular way, a unanimous vote in his favor being necessary to an election.

# OFFICERS

## *of* FRATERNITY LODGE, No. 262,

## For 1907.

| | |
|---|---|
| William S. Mills, | *Worshipful Master* |
| William L. Walz, | *Senior Warden* |
| Arthur M. Smith, | *Junior Warden* |
| Charles E. Hiscock, | *Treasurer* |
| Claude J. Price, | *Secretary* |
| William H. Murray, | *Senior Deacon* |
| Frank E. Gillespie, | *Junior Deacon* |
| Robert B. Howell, Harry M. Cobb, | *Stewards* |
| Chauncey M. Thompson, | *Tyler* |
| Rev. Alexander C. Gray, | *Chaplain* |
| Gustave H. Sodt, P. M. | *Marshal* |
| Reuben H. Kempf, | *Organist* |
| Arthur M. Smith, | *Historian* |

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## COMMITTEES

*Finance:*

John Lindenschmitt, P. M. Philip Blum, P. M.
Elmer E. Beal, P. M.

*House:*

W. S. Mills

*Charity and Relief:*

W. S. Mills W. L. Walz A. M. Smith

*Entertainment:*

C. J. Price C. F. Meyers, P. M. W. L. Walz
J. W. Henry H. J. Abbott

GRAND LODGE

OF THE

FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS

OF THE

STATE OF MICHIGAN.

**To all whom these Presents may concern, Greeting:**

**Whereas**, of Divine has been pleased to set, by worthy Brethren residing within this jurisdiction, to wit: Irma Pierce, Lo O. Harriman, E. Johnson, Robert Rice, N. B. Smith, Charles Root, N. K. Jones, [illegible] Robinson, Edward Pratt, R. Perry, E. D. Kenny, George Taylor and Foster Coupernite

Petitioners, an account of the uniformity of their respective dwellings, and for which good reasons, for a DISPENSATION to empower them to assemble as a Legal Lodge, to discharge the duties of Masonry in the several degrees of **Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft, and Master Mason**, in a regular and constitutional manner according to the ancient form of the fraternity, and the constitution and regulations of the Grand Lodge, and pursuing a strict uniformity in all constitutional laws, rules and regulations of the same.

**And Whereas**, the said petitioners have duly recommended to me as Charitable Masons in good standing by the Worshipful Officers, Officers and Brethren of Cobblers Rocks Lodge, No. 189 under our jurisdiction.

**Therefore**, I, A. F. Mitchell, Grand Master of the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Michigan, by virtue of the authority in me vested, do hereby grant this my DISPENSATION, authorizing and empowering the twenty good and lawful brethren aforesaid, to form and open a NEW LODGE, in the City of Fraternity in the County of Washtenaw and State of Michigan, to be called Fraternity Lodge, and therein to receive and make Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts, and Master Masons, in conformity with the ancient usages and customs of the Fraternity, observing in all things the constitution, laws and edicts of the **Grand Lodge**, and not otherwise.

And I do hereby appoint you worthy brother Irma Pierce to be your first Master, brother Lo O. Harriman to be the first Senior Warden, and brother Perry Johnson to be the first Junior Warden, of said new lodge.

And we shall be there duly, and they are hereby required to return this Dispensation, with a correct transcript of all proceedings had under the authority of the same, together with an attested copy of their by-laws, to our Grand Lodge, at its next annual communication, for examination, and such further action as shall then be deemed wise and proper.

The Dispensation to continue in full force till the annual communication aforesaid, unless sooner revoked by us.

**In Testimony Whereof**, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed the Seal of the Grand Lodge, at Detroit, the twenty-third day of March A. D. 1867 A. L. 5867.

A. F. Mitchell, Grand Master.

Attest: Lee Fenton, Grand Secretary.

THE DISPENSATION ISSUED FOR THE FORMATION OF FRATERNITY LODGE.

# PAST MASTERS

*of* FRATERNITY LODGE, No. 262.

1869. Zina P. King
1870. Sibley G. Taylor*
1871. Sibley G. Taylor*
1872. Sibley G. Taylor*
1873. John P. Little*
1874. John P. Little*
1875. John P. Litsle*
1876. John P. Little*
1877. John P. Little*
1878. John P. Little*
1879. John P. Little*
1880. Charles E. Hiscock
1881. William D. Harriman
1882. William D. Harriman
1883. Charles B. Davison*
1884. William D. Harriman
1885. E. J. Morton*
1886. E. J. Morton*
1887. E. J. Morton*
1888. Wesley E. Howe
1889. Charles B. Davison*
1890. Charles B. Davison*
1891. Charles B. Davison*
1892. Charles B. Davison*
1893. William H. Dorrance
1894. John B. Dowdigan†
1895. Charles B. Davison*
1896. Charles B. Davison*
1897. Frederick G. Novy
1898. Horace G. Prettyman

1899. Elmer E. Beal
1900. Walter T. Seabolt*
1901. Alvick A. Pearson
1902. John Lindenschmitt
1903. Thomas H. Corbett
1904. Philip Blum
1905. Gustave H. Sodt
1906. Charles F. Meyers

*Deceased.
†Dimitted.

## HONORARY MEMBERS

John W. Bennett, 1895.
H. B. Dodsley, 1895.
Archie B. Pierce, 1907.
Reuben H. Kempf, 1907.

ANN ARBOR LODGE, NO. 85, MET UNTIL ITS DEATH IN 1869, IN THIS BUILDING AT NO. 109 NORTH MAIN STREET.

# HISTORY

## *of* Fraternity Lodge.

Fraternity Lodge was an outgrowth from and the successor of Ann Arbor Lodge, No. 85, which was chartered by the Grand Lodge of Michigan, June 16, 1857, and passed out of existence early in 1869. The death of the old Lodge is thus recorded in the address of Grand Master A. T. Metcalf, at the annual communication of the Grand Lodge of Michigan in January, 1870:

On the 8th of February last I received a communication from the officers of Ann Arbor Lodge, No. 85, containing the statement that the charter of said Lodge had been lost by surreptitious removal from their Lodge room; that diligent search had been made for the same, but without success. I immediately issued my mandate revoking the powers conferred by said charter, and forbidding the holding of meetings or the transaction of any business under or by virtue of its authority. That the property of the Lodge might have proper care, I appointed Brother G. H. Rhodes receiver, and the books, real and other property of the Lodge are now in his possession.

Subsequently, the officers and several brethren of this Lodge petitioned for a dispensation to hold two regular communications, for the following purposes, viz:

1. To settle the business of the Lodge.

2. To take into consideration the formal surrender of the charter.

The dispensation was granted, for reasons not necessary to mention at this time. The proceedings of the Lodge under this dispensation, a record of which was in due time forwarded to me, appear to have been correct. This record, and other papers relating to this subject, are on file with the Grand Secretary.

The birth of the new Lodge followed immediately upon the demise of the old. A petition was presented to Grand Master Metcalf, praying for dispensation. It was signed by the following thirteen brothers: Zina P. King, W. D. Harriman, E. J. Johnson, Robert M. Price, W. B. Smith, Erastus Root, M. V. R. Jones, J. G. Johnson, John N. Gott, F. Sorg, E. D. Kinne, George Taylor (Past Grand Chaplain) and Justus Carpenter. Under date of March 22, 1869, dispensation was issued by the Grand Master authorizing the opening of the new lodge and appointing Zina P. King to be the first master; W. D. Harriman the first senior warden and Elias J. Johnson the first junior warden. Brother King was senior warden of Ann Arbor Lodge, No. 85, and therefore the natural choice for master of the new lodge. Under these officers and with W. B. Smith, treasurer; R. M. Price, secretary; Aaron Long, senior deacon; Fred Sorg, junior deacon and S. L. Stevens as tyler, Fraternity Lodge held its first meeting on March 31, 1869. At this meeting

five petitions for membership and ten for initiation were received, and on May 5, 1869, the Lodge conferred its first degree, H. B. Alexander, S. R. Gregory, Andrew Winslow and B. A. Williams becoming Entered Apprentices on that evening.

Report of the year's work was submitted to the Grand Lodge at its annual communication held in Detroit on January 12, 13 and 14, 1870, the record was approved and a charter issued.

A special communication of the Lodge was immediately called for the election of officers, the following being chosen:

| | |
|---|---|
| *Worshipful Master,* | Sibley G. Taylor |
| *Senior Warden,* | Charles A. Horn |
| *Junior Warden,* | Justus Carpenter |
| *Treasurer,* | W. B. Smith |
| *Secretary,* | R. M. Price |
| *Senior Deacon,* | Aaron Long |
| *Junior Deacon,* | James M. Cook |
| *Stewards,* | Frank Weil<br>J. F. Miller |
| *Tyler,* | John P. Little |

Brother Taylor had been Master of Ann Arbor Lodge during the last two years of its life, and Brother Price had served that Lodge as Tyler.

These officers were installed and the Lodge duly constituted by Grand Master Metcalf on February 15, 1870.

The Lodge was formed and met for sev-

THE BUILDING AT NOS. 215 AND 217 SOUTH MAIN STREET, ON THE THIRD FLOOR OF WHICH FRATERNITY LODGE MET FOR FIFTEEN YEARS.

eral years thereafter in the hall on the third floor over Nos. 215 and 217 South Main street. For this hall Fraternity Lodge paid an annual rental to Ann Arbor Commandery, No. 13, K. T., of $87.50. In March, 1876, a committee was appointed to look for other rooms, but no removal occurred. In 1881 another such committee was appointed, but in the meantime the Lodge seems to have changed landlords and assumed a higher rental, since in the latter year the records show that the annual cost of the rooms was reduced from $250 to $175 by Charles Fantile, owner of the property. This reduction doubtless induced our brothers to remain where they were.

In 1884 we find the first record of agitation for club rooms on the floor beneath the Lodge room, an agitation which has persisted at frequent intervals to the present day, without definite results. In this same year the lodge purchased a lot in Forest Hill cemetery, which it still holds.

In 1885 action was taken to secure a more desirable meeting-place. A committee was appointed to consider transfer of the hall to the third floor of what was then known as the St. James Block, now the Ann Arbor Savings Bank Block. The committee reported promptly at the stated communication in March of that year and it was immediately decided to move. It is to be assumed that the other three bodies acted with

ANN ARBOR SAVINGS BANK BLOCK, THE ENTIRE THIRD FLOOR OF WHICH HAS BEEN THE HOME OF THE LOCAL MASONIC BODIES SINCE 1885.

similar promptness. The cost of furnishing the new quarters was $1,600, of which each local body assumed one fourth.

The new hall was dedicated with public ceremonies by Grand Master Arthur M. Clark on September 24, 1885. Refurnished in 1902, this hall is still our home and provides quarters for all the local Masonic bodies surpassed in attractiveness by few if any similar lodge rooms in the state. In amount of floor space, it is claimed, no other Masonic hall in Michigan exceeds this.

Fraternity Lodge originally fixed its annual dues at $3.00 per year. In 1876 the amount was reduced to $2.00 and five years later to $1.00. In 1885, however, the dues were again placed at $2.00, payable semi-annually.

Until 1884 the regular communications of the Lodge were held on the first Wednesday in the month. This continued to be the custom until the summer of 1892, when the by-laws were again amended and the time set for 7 p. m. on the first Friday of each month.

In 1891, the records inform us, the plan of purchasing a safe was placed in the hands of a committee, where it seems to have perished, and our books and valuable records are still dangerously scattered. In this same year a similar fate befell the project of acquiring a library for the lodge. A second attempt to secure a library was made just five years later, a committee being appoint-

THE HALL IN WHICH FRATERNITY LODGE HAS HELD ITS MEETINGS SINCE 1885.